

IOWA CHILD ADVOCACY BOARD
STATE BOARD MEETING
Conference Room 319 & 320
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa
Friday, September 9, 2022
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

State Board Members Present:

Ashley Baker
Mark Elcock
Don Logan
Rick McIntosh
Judge Owens, Chair
Wayne Schellhammer, Vice Chair - Virtual

Staff Present:

Amy Carpenter
Shirley Hoefer - Virtual
Steffani Simbric
Joseph Wernau, Intern

Call Meeting to Order; Roll Call of Board Members

Judge Owens calls the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes for Previous Meetings

Handout 1. Logan moves and McIntosh seconds a motion to approve the June 10, 2022 Iowa Child Advocacy Board meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

CASA Program Report, Amy Carpenter

Handout 2. Carpenter gives an overview of the data for the end of FY22. The board had previously asked for reasons volunteers are exiting. Carpenter added this information to the report. She explains the primary reason volunteers are exited is because staff are unable to make contact with them. The hours and miles, contribution value numbers need to be swapped on the spreadsheet.

Carpenter states that the CASA of Iowa State Organization completed the National CASA/GAL Association

Highly Effective Standards Review Process. No significant findings were cited. ICAB did a lot of rewrites for administrative code during FY22. Local programs met with the State Office several times to learn more about National CASA/GAL Association's standards for local programs. Plans were developed during these meetings for the standards review process. Carpenter reviewed other highlights for FY22.

Changes to the FY23 CASA Dashboard include counting families instead of assigned number of advocates. This gives employees credit for the extra work involved when advocates carry more than one case. The increased case goal ensures we serve more children. Coaches are no longer required. Number of volunteers on leave has been added to the dashboard.

Judge Owens asks if there are any adjustments that need to be made if National CASA adopts their 2030 strategic plan framework. Carpenter sat in on their strategic plan meeting and she feels that there will be a lot of changes for us to make. There was a brief discussion on the shift seeming to go from the child to the family and what we can do to keep that family intact. Schellhammer asks if we will still be concentrating on recruitment and comparing the older model to this newer model. Carpenter states recruitment plans are still in place for staff. Simbric states that we aren't doing anything different. We are just looking at different data points.

FCRB Program Report, Shirley Hoefer

Handout 3. Hoefer states there has been a concern about numbers dropping due to Family First. She continues to keep a close eye on the numbers. All prior reporting requirements have been discontinued through the DIA-DHHS memorandum of understanding. If there are data points the board would like to see quarterly, let her know.

An agreement was reached between ICAB and DHHS to serve children 0-5 and youth with court-ordered goals of APPLA. All of our areas that have FCRB continue to review the children they normally do with the exception of children placed in QRTP are not currently being reviewed.

Implementation of CAMS for FCRB is going very well. We plan for facilitators and volunteers to start using the system for reviews in January 2023. The board had asked how much it would cost for technology for FCRB virtual participation. The estimated cost is \$25,000. ICAB is looking for funding opportunities to fund this need.

ICAB Budget, Steffani Simbric

Handout 4. Simbric states that we have not received our final FY22 numbers from DIA. We should be very close to a zero balance.

Handout 5. Simbric has worked with DIA to come up with a more user-friendly report for FY23. We were not contacted for FY23 budget numbers. DIA used numbers from our past history, so the revenue numbers are not

accurate. Our budget for FY23 is approximately \$40,000 in the negative.

New Business, Steffani Simbric

Handout 6, was included so the board could see the final administrative rule changes that will be submitted.

Handout 7. The board reviewed the annual report. McIntosh made a suggested change for graph on page 3. Schellhammer suggests putting the \$25,000 ask for FCRB technology in the annual report. Elcock notes page 10 spelling error on indigenous. ICAB is hoping to distribute the report in October. Schellhammer moves and McIntosh seconds a motion to approve the FY22 Annual Report with suggested changes. Motion passed unanimously.

Carpenter states that a Woodbury Assistant County Attorney has an issue with the language in 237.24, indicating that the new legislation doesn't allow volunteers to inspect and copy child records from third parties. The language is instead written in the order appointing CASA. The board had a discussion about this issue. The board suggests that Carpenter talk to Judge Parry in Woodbury County and asks ICAB to consider the matter closed, no longer engaging on the issue.

Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting is scheduled for December 9 from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Lucas Building Rooms 319 & 320. Upcoming 2023 dates: March 10, June 9, September 8 and December 8

McIntosh motions and Schellhammer seconds the meeting adjourns. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourns 1:31 p.m.

ICAB Minutes Prepared By: _____
Sherri Ripperger

ICAB Minutes Approved On: _____

CAB Minutes Approved by Child Advocacy Board Vote

Approved By:

Judge William S. Owens, ICAB State Board Chair

Steffani Simbric, ICAB Administrator

Handout 1: June 2022 Board Minutes

Handout 2: CASA Program Report

Handout 3: FCRB Program Report

Handout 4: FY22 End of Year ICAB Budget Report

Handout 5: FY23 ICAB Budget Report

Handout 6: Administrative Rules Update

Handout 7: FY22 Draft ICAB Annual Report